



STATE OF MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



What is **TankSmart**?

TankSmart is Maine's program for training persons who operate underground oil storage facilities. It is a free, internet-based training service to enable facility operators to be certified to properly operate and maintain their equipment in compliance with Maine's Ground Water Protection laws and the Department of Environmental Protection's Rules for Underground Oil Storage Facilities.

Why was **TankSmart** created?

Underground oil storage facilities can be sources of leaks and spills of petroleum which put the environment and public health at risk. A facility that is operated and maintained by a properly trained person is more likely to prevent an accidental release of petroleum to the environment.

What facilities are covered by this training?

An UST facility that stores any of the following products must have a trained and certified operator.

- Motor fuel: gasoline, diesel, aviation fuel, or fuel used for an emergency generator
- Fuel used for marketing and distribution: any product that is distributed through retail or wholesale methods

Maine law requires operators of these facilities to complete a department training program that meets U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

Who must be trained?

The Federal Underground Storage Tank Compliance Act established three categories of operators which are identified as Class A, B and C.

A **Class A** operator is responsible for the facility overall, and may manage employees who are responsible for operating and maintaining the facility. The Class A operator ensures that employees are properly trained to understand leak detection and spill prevention equipment, ensure product compatibility with equipment and maintain appropriate records.

A **Class B** operator is responsible for operation, maintenance and record keeping at the facility on a day to day basis. The Class B operator must be familiar with leak detection and spill prevention systems, spill reporting and response, and record keeping requirements.

A **Class C** Operator must be trained to know what action to take in response to a leak alarm or an emergency such as a spill at the facility. The Class C operator notifies the Class A or B operator if such an event occurs.

In Maine, Class A and B operators are combined into one category. **TankSmart** was developed for these persons. In Maine, one person may serve as the Class A, B and C operator for a facility, if desired.

How does the training work?

You may access **TankSmart** on any internet-connected computer via <http://www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/ust/index.htm>. By entering the registration number(s) for the facility or facilities you operate, you will automatically be provided with training modules that teach you about the equipment at your facility. For example, the training modules for the operator of tanks that are double walled with electronic leak detection differ from those for the operator of single walled tanks that use monthly reconciliation of daily inventory and an annual Statistical Inventory Analysis for leak detection.

Or, if you prefer, you may view all of the training modules and train as a General Operator.

How can I prove that I have been trained?

You must pass an on-line test covering the applicable modules with a score of at least 80%. (Be aware that there is a two hour time limit to complete the test!) Once you achieve a passing score, you may print a certificate that shows you have successfully trained. This is your proof of training.

You are not required to view the modules before taking the test, but we recommend it. You may take the test for the applicable modules as many times as you need in order to be certified.

How long is my certificate good for?

A certificate expires after one year, so you must retest in order to maintain compliance with the training requirement.

What if I do not have a computer?

The Department has created a hardcopy edition of **TankSmart** for those who wish to certify as a Class A/B Operator but prefer an alternative method to the online training modules. The hardcopy edition of **TankSmart** is available online to print at: www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/ust/index.htm. Operators who wish to test on the hardcopy edition rather than take the online test should contact the Underground Tanks Unit at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for other arrangements at (207) 287-2651.

How much does the training cost?

The online version of **TankSmart** is free and you can train and test as many times as you like. You can also print any of the individual pages of the modules.

You may also download and print the hardcopy edition of **TankSmart**.

If you would like the Department to send you a printed copy of **TankSmart** (available in black and white only), please contact the Underground Tanks Unit at (207) 287-2651.

